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#### **Legion winners**

Torah Academy students (from left to right) Asna Simes, Shmuel Shotkin, Elisheva Shaps, Shaindel Shousterman and Nosson Burger with Doug Cody of the Royal Canadian Legion. (Story on page 7.)

# Israeli FM Shalom: Fence is 'reversible'

By Toyah Lazaroff

Israel is willing to consider moving the anti-terrorist fence as part of negotiations with the Palestinian Authority, Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom told world leaders at the World Economics Forum in Davos, Switzerland,

"If we reach agreement with the Palestinians and we agree with each other to

scoring the point that the fence is a security measure and not a political border.

He spoke about the fence both in a meeting with UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan and in an interview with the Associated Press. He said tsracl has moved fences in the past, such as on

able," said Shalom, under- dan, and Lebanon, and would now to the negotiating table be willing to do so in the future

> Human lives are irreversible," Shalom said.

He said that the Palestinian Authority had made a precondition of making changes in the fence before negotiations with Israel

move the fence, it's mov- the borders with Egypt, Jor- resumed, but should move to discuss the issue

> "We don't like this fence "The fence is reversible. We didn't build the fence from 1967 to 2002," said Shalom. PA officials said they want assurances passed along through the US - that they would come away from any new talks with

(Continued on page 4)

# Former chief rabbi of Israel visits Ottawa

By Zev Kalin

Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau entered the office set aside for his interview and came straight to the point. With a stern rabbinical air, no doubt cultivated from years of over-awing mischievous students, the former chief rabbi of Israel stated, "I'm tired! I've given two lectures today and I'm still not finished. I will allow you one question only.

When he sat down his brows unfurrowed and the twinkle in his eyes was revealed. As his face relaxed into a warm smile he chuckled, "Well alright, we'll start with one and then we'll see."

The rabbi's fatigue was no pretense. His cure for jet lag appears simple - never stop moving.

During his whirlwind spoke to local Jewish day school students, met with community leaders three times, presided over four VIP meals, gave two major lectures, interviews, and over Shabbat gave rabbinical lessons (shiurim) at Young Israel and the Kollel.

With the support of UJA, Hillel Academy hosted the senior grades of Cheder Rambam, Torah Academy, and Yitzhak Rabin Schools



Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau (Photo: Peter Waiser Photography)

for the rabbi's speech. This was in keeping with his theme of standing united, regardless of background.

Rabbi Lau told a packed auditorium that the last time he had been to Canada he had discussed the status of Jerusalem with, then Prime Minister, Jean Chrétien. He handed Chretien a bible and weekend visit, the rabbi asked him to verify that the name Jerusalem appears 821 times. He pointed out that it does not appear in the Koran even once

> He concluded that though he has met with all manners of heads of state and even the Pope, "To me it is a greater honour to meet with you ... You are our future ... Being proud of our identity, and standing united, this is the greatest thing."

(Continued on page 2)



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# Rabbi: support and help one another

(Continued from page 1)

Marty Davis, executive director of Ottawa United Jewish Appeal said that Rabbi Lau's visit, "is a joint event that we're cosponsoring with the Kollel of Ottawa Centre for Jewish Education. The Rabbi's visit was meant to motivate. our community with being Jewish and invigorate our connection to Israel, I think he achieved this.

"Building bridges between secular and orthodox Jews is something the rabbi is famous for. He lived through Buchenwald and he tells people, 'If we can die together; surely we can find a way to survive together regardless of where we are religiously.

Rabbi Binyomin Holland, rosh kollel of the Kol-

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lel of Ottawa Centre for Jewish Education, said, "The rabbi's coming encouraged and enhanced the unifying efforts of all sects of Ottawa's Jewish community to come together, work together and grow together." Rabbi Lau's message

was one of unity, when he educate, excite, and connect addressed the community on Sunday night. "One thing endangers the survival of the Jewish people - internal discord. We need unity, friendship and love more than anything - Ahavat Yisrocl (love for the people and the land of Israel). This is the key to our future. We have to listen one to the other, and not only die together, but also live together. If we have Shalom Bayit we will have Shalom Chutz (peace with our neighbours). We must have union, understanding, friendship and love to support and help one another, and our gentile friends."

When asked how he is able to achieve acceptance among such a diverse range of Jewish constituencies the rabbi answered, "The only way to insure our survival is through loyalty to our heritage. With no roots the tree will give no fruit. Our roots are our Jewish heritage.

"When I left the yeshiva, I went to be a teacher of Metrics, in Talmud and Bible, at two secular schools in Petach Tikya. One was Brenner. It was a socialist school and in Stalin's time it was closed on the first of May. The other was Echad Ha'Am. I lived with them two years, youths of seventeen and eighteen years old. This gave me the opportunity to get to know the secular part of my people.

"I have discovered that the debate between Jews is based on ignorance. Take your average Israeli and put him at any front door. Show him the mezuzah and ask him what is inside.

"Ninety per cent don't know the answer. If you don't know what is inside the religious symbols that you meet every day how can you judge our religion or a religious man? I learned that we must open our ears and our hearts to know one another - to bridge the gap."

For many, meeting Rabbi Lau in person can have a profound impact. Regardless of how religious you are or even whether you're a Jew, the rabbi greets you with the same warmth, humility and basic menchlachkite. This is part of what makes him so widely respected.

After all too short a time the interview ended. One of the rabbi's escorts rushed into the interview the room and said, "The Israeli ambassador has arrived. He's waiting."

"Just a minute", said the Rav, taking out a pen and searching for paper. With a stem look he concluded, "Be sure to send me a copy."

It will be an honour,

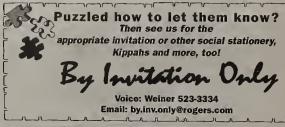


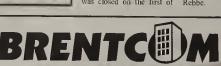
Rabbi Yisrael Meîr Lau talks with a student at Hillel Academy. During his visit, the rabbi met with a group of students from various day schools. He also spoke to members of the community at synagogues and the SJCC. (Photo: Geremy Miller)

# Mazal Tov!

#### Engaged!

Bayne/Friedlich - Sandy and Gerry Bayne and Claire Friedlich Markus are delighted to announce the engagement of their children, Chad and Ruth (daughter of the late Dr. Thomas Friedlich). Proud grandparents are Irene Waxman, Robert Bayne and Aurelia and Lewis Friedlich. The wedding will take place in Toronto on June 20, 2004.





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# Shalom meets Arab leaders in Davos

(Continued from page 1) some progress on major issues, such as the fence.

"Israel would like to resume the negotiations immediately." Shalom said. "We have been waiting for more than three months now for the first meeting to be scheduled between Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Abu Ala [Palestinian Authority Prime Minister Ahmed Qurei]. But unfortunately Abu Ala is not willing to schedule this first meeting, which we believe would put the peace process on track."

Qurei has complained bitterly about the fence,
demanding that Israel take it
down. However, he has not
made that a precondition for
a meeting with Sharon.

"It's very difficult to produce deeper decisions, espetially now that the Israelis
a meeting with Sharon.

Qurei has said he wants assurances from Sharon that a meeting will produce some improvement in the lives of ordinary Palestinians.

Such improvements could include an easing of travel restrictions or an IDF pullback from some Palestinian cities, Qurei has said.

"I'm asking everyone to ask Prime Minister Abu Ala to resume the negotiations, because I believe that through negotiations it will be much easier for us to narrow the gaps," Shalom said.

Labor Party leader Shimon Peres also met with Annan in Davos. Annan told him that efforts to ignore Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat had only strengthened him.

PA Foreign Minister Nabil Shaath told reporters in Davos he fears Sharon's possible involvement in financial scandal will divert attention from the peace process.

"It's very difficult to produce deeper decisions, especially now that the Israelis are going through this period of corruption charges against Mr. Sharon and a possible change of the Israeli government," he said. Shaath added that the fence is a stumbling block to peace.

Shalom has been taking advantage of the meetings with foreign officials in Davos to promote the fence

"I'm asking everyone to and other issues of impor-Prime Minister Abu Ala tance to Israel.

"I had a meeting with the foreign minister of Qatar, with the son of [Egyptian] President [Hosni] Mubarak. I will have meetings with the foreign minister of Jordan and the foreign minister of the Palestinian Authority," Shalom said.

He said he was trying to schedule meetings with officials of "some other Arab countries," but had had no meetings with Pakistani officials, despite recent Israeli reports of secret contacts between the states.

Shalom told Annan that Israel bitterly opposes the UN decision to move the fence issue to the International Court of Justice. "It's our primary responsibility to defend the lives of our citizens," he said.

Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin told Shalom that his country opposes the decision to bring the fence to The Hague.

Peres met Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf by accident in a ballway encounter at the World Economic Forum on Thursday. An Israeli official said the meeting had not been planned.

Musharraf told the Associated Press later, "He wished me well. He wished me safety and security, and I thanked him. Not anything more than that."

Shalom said he had seen a "dramatic change" in Islamic countries since the war in Iraq and the capture of former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein.

He said they appeared to have decided that the time has come to have better ties with the United States and possibly establish contacts with Israel.

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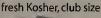
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# only agenda: support Israel and Jewish people

By Annie Elliott In the past few years, many Christian initiatives have sprung up in solidarity and support of Israel, reflecting a smeere and heartfelt

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love for Israel and the Jewish people. More recently, joint projects have taken place demonstrating the emerging friendship of Jews and Christians. The Jewish community and the Christian community are beginning to walk hand in hand on a pathway of sincere friendship.

On October 27, 2002 the chief rabbi of Israel, Rabbi Israel Meir Lau came to Toronto and spoke to an audience of Jews and Christians on the topic, 'The Unprecedented Unique Bond between Christians and Jews in the Wake of Global Terrorism.' After that gathering, Rabbi Lau extended an invitation to 20 key Christian leaders to come to Israel to meet with diplomatic and religious leaders to dialogue and explore new ways to walk and work together.

A growing number of Canadian evangelical Christians are standing shoulder to shoulder with the people and the nation of Israel in their quest for pcace, security and their biblical right to live peacefully in their land.

In October of 2003, the Together for Israel Mission, endorsed by the Ambassador of Israel, Haim Divon and the Embassy of Israel and sponsored by the Canada Israel Committee and Return Ministries, brought 40 Canadian Jews and Christians to Israel together on a heart to heart, solidarity, fact-finding mission. The message was clear, "Israel you are not alone. We care and we have come to show our support."

While in Israel, close to 100 Canadian Jews and Christians participated in the Jerusalem March, during the Feast of Succot, together with 20,000 other Jews and Christians from over 80 nations.

Visiting hospitals, trauma centres, humanitarian aid

Anna-Lea Chiprout of the Israeti Embassy (front row, third from right) and Annie Elliott of Return Ministry (second from right) with a group of Israeli soldiers during the October Together for Israel Mission.

centres, soldiers on army bases, meeting victims of terror, and hearing their stories, the participants of the Together Mission were profoundly touched. Each returned to Canada with a firm resolve and strong determination to be stronger

Christians are beginning to work with Jewish communities in Canada; tackling anti-Semitism in all its

advocates and ambassadors

for Israel.

hideous forms and speaking out by addressing biases and distortions about Israel in the media with factual accurate information.

Many new joint initiatives such as The Forum, launched by the Canada Israel Committee, involve Jews and Christians working together, promoting and advancing support for Israel.

This shared pathway of friendship is not devoid of hurdles and bumps along the way. Long-standing reservations and suspicions still exist in the Jewish community and understandably so, given two thousand years of dreadful history. The past

has been plagued with persecution, forced conversion, anti-Semitism and mass murder, all at the hands of professing Christians. Unbelievable! Many Jewish people today still believe that evangelical Christians have hidden agendas and ulterior motives.

New and encouraging signs of understanding and cooperation are emerging though. In recent years, no one group has demonstrated in as many practical ways, their staunch support of the Jewish people to live in peace and security in their ancient homeland Israel, as

(Continued on page 7)

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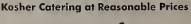
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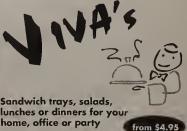
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#### Honour Han Ramon z"!

On Sunday, February 8, telephones will be ringing all over Ottawa as JNF Ottawa conducts the annual Tu B'Shevat Telethon, its yearly city-wide appeal to purchase trees for Israel. This joyous holiday, which falls on the 15th of the month of Shevat, traditionally denotes the festive 'New Year of Trees' and marks the beginning of a new cycle of blossoming and fruit bearing for the trees in Israel. In modern Israel, Tu B'Shevat has come to symbolize the transformation of the land of Israel from desert sand to green fields and forests ... through the good work of JNF.

It was just one year ago that Israel - and all Diaspora Jewry - experienced a moment of exhilaration and hope when Ilan Ramon z"l became the first Israeli to be sent into space. In his brief address from space to Prime Minister Israel Sharon, astronaut Ramon asked that 13 million trees be planted in Israel. The mission ended tragically but the memory of Ilan Ramon and his request live on. Please join Ottawa in leading the world to fulfil Ilan Ramon's appeal that 13 million trees be planted in Israel. Help us plant these 'seeds of hope and remembrance.' This will send an inspiring message to the citizens of Israel and to the entire world as we work to fulfil llan's legacy.

This past year has been an 'annus horribilis' for Israel and its citizens. It's no secret that the economy has been seriously eroded and, with Israelis living daily in a state of fear and anxiety, the State needs our support more than ever before both financially and emotionally. Please, when your JNF canvasser calls, respond with a heartfelt, "Yes!" Should we miss you on Sunday, February 8, the incredible Naomi Lipsky Cracower and her 'clean-up crew' will be holding a Clean-Up Telethon on the heels of the major event. And, of course, you are always welcome to call the JNF office to make a purchase.

#### Two very special events

In keeping with our plan to raise the profile of JNF in Ottawa, we have two exciting events in the works. The first, in March, will be a private tour of the Dead Sea Scrolls guided by Eli Shenhav, JNF's Education Shaliach and an archaeologist by profession. In April, the noted artist Jennfier Dickson will deliver the first of two lectures, 'Jewish Painters in the 19th Century.' Participation is limited in both these special events. Watch for dates and venues in the next Bulletin.

#### A trio of R'nal Mitzvah

Mazal Toy and Yasher Koach to Matthew Grodinsky, Joshua Schachnow and Rebecca Zunder on becoming B'nai Mitzvah. The proud parents of each of these youngsters chose to add a meaningful touch to the major milestone by inscribing the name of their cherished celebrant in the Sefer Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

#### Golden Book Inscription

On the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah, Joshua Schachnow has been inscribed in the Golden Book by his proud grandparents, Shelley and Morris Schachnow

On a daily basis you can plant trees for all occasions. An attractive card is sent to the recipient. To order, call the JNF office (798-2411).



# **Torah Academy shines in** Remembrance Day contest

from Torah Academy participate in the Royal Canadian Legion Remembrance Day Writing and Poster Contest.

Students are asked to submit poems, essays and posters that focus on Canada's participation in the World Wars. This year, over 20 students from Grades 2 to 8 entered the contest.

Seven students, competing against eight local schools, won prizes in the first round of competition. The winners were: Junior Colour Poster: 1st Asna compete nationally,

Each year, students Simes, 2nd Shayndel Shousterman. Junior Black and White Poster: 1st Shmuly Shotkin, 2nd Alexander Sarna, and 3rd Nossi Burger. Intermediate Essay: 3rd Shabtai Ben Porat. Intermediate Poetry: 1st Elisheva Shaps.

The three first place winners moved on to compete at the city level and two of those students won in their categories. They are now competing against winners in the Eastern Ontario Region and may eventually have the opportunity to

people, your God my God ..

may the Lord deal with me.

be it ever so severely if any-

thing but death separates you

biblical mandate and moral

obligation to work together

with God's chosen people,

His treasured possession,

both here in Canada and

Israel. During these chal-

lenging and difficult days,

Christians are committed to

continue standing with

Israel and the Jewish people.

to continue building bridges and seeking new ways to

work together. It is not

enough to just be stirred in

our hearts with sentiment or

emotion. We must exercise

our individual and collective

strength and take action.

Together with God's help.

we will make a difference!

Return Ministry took part in

the Together for Israel Mis-

sion. A highlight of the trip,

she says, was participating

in the Jerusalem March with

her good friend, Anna-Lea

Chipront of the Israeli

Embassy.

Annie Elliott of the

As Christians, we have a

#### Support Jewish people stay. Your people shall be my

(Continued from page 6) the Christians, particularly evangelical Christians.

As we continue to walk together, we are discovering that we have much in common. Yes, there are theological differences, but we are willing to respect our differences, emhrace one another and work together.

Do we have an agenda? Yes ... to bless Israel and the Jewish people. In recent years, many Christians have made a Ruth-like commitment, "Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will



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# VAAD Report

Arnie Vered President

The Talmud states, "As my fathers planted for me before I was bom, so do I plant for those who will come after me."

in light of the recently released Basic Demographics report, part of a series interpreting Statistics Canada's 2001 Census data, I have come to view this touching and forward-looking statement with new interest.

According to the first of nine parts to this survey available at www.jewish ottawa.org, the Ottawa Jewish community grew by more than 15 per cent to remain the fifth largest Jewish centre in Canada.

In addition to all of the wonderful challenges that this increasing responsibility brings, a more revealing statistic found in the survey focuses on members of our community between the ages of 25 and 44. The population within this age group exhibited a marked decrease in the last 10 years, while the median age of our com-

# These statistics don't lie

munity is 39.4 years; slightly younger than the Canadian Jewish population as a

Despite this decline over the last ten years, this age group does represents 22.5 per cent of our entire Jewish community. In Ottawa, the 22 to 44 year age group represents 33 per cent of the population.

This tells me that, although percentage wise we are significantly less than the overall Ottawa population, we still have a considerable Jewish population in the 25 to 44 age range. This group has an opportunity to be quite influential in the ongoing development, and future growth of our

For many of my peers, getting involved in community was a rite of passage. In my case, I had watched my parents work tirelessly in many philanthropic and voluntary pursuits, which ultimately inspired me to want to give back as well.

Today, there are many more competing diversions for our young people. Involvement and advocacy might arise through confrontations that our students have on our university campuses as they wade through a seemingly endless quagmire of anti-Israel, and often anti-Semitic slogans.

Later in life, young adults might want to connect to community for the sake of their children through day school, weekend activities and celebrations.

These are wonderful and valuable vehicles by which to enrich the Jewish family, but what about the future of our community as a whole? The recent demography study brings into focus some serious questions

Have we done enough to ensure ample leadership succession in our community? Are we looking seriously enough at young adults who are currently taking on leadership roles on our university campuses and in other communal organizations? Are we empowering them to take on a greater role? Will they be there when our community needs them?

Today, we are on the verge of a new era in our community. Recently, the Board of Trustees endorsed a new governance model for our community, which will help to facilitate progress through increased efficiency; and we are designing a new and innovative Agency-Vaad relationship to ensure the practical functioning of our community by collectively identifying universal objectives and finding solutions that

are beneficial to all our partners. (There will be more on this in one of my next articlcs).

In the face of this change, now is the time for a new generation of volunteers to emerge and to contribute to the future direction of our community.

Despite these new and exciting changes, our community faces a significant shortage of lay leaders and volunteers.

In fact, next to financial resource development, the single scarcest resource in our community is harnessing and retaining enough volunteers to move our community's agendas forward.

It starts with you.

If you have some time to give and are passionate about strengthening your Jewish community, we could use your help. What you do today will clearly influence what will be tomorrow.

You can start to play an integral role in community right now by registering on the community website at www.jewisottawa.org and contributing your time for the benefit of those who will come after you.

Only together can we make a differ-



We Jews can often see the world through Jewish lenses. We look at the decisions of our government, the president of the United States, the European Union and ask, "Is it good for the Jews?"

It is not uncommon for us when reading the newspapers to see a story about a per-

# 'Is it good for the Jews?'

son with a Jewish sounding name and wonder if we will 'kvell' at the story or yell 'boosha.' It is very common for us to read about events in the Middle East and divide reactions into those who are for 'us' and those who are against 'us.'

This ethnocentrism has been a very successful means of protecting ourselves when living in hostile environments. Yet it is also a very successful method of distancing ourselves from potential friends and neighbours who wish to join with us in creating a just and caring com-

In a short while the Mel Gibson film The Passion will be released. This film is, according to Gibson, a faithful portrayal of the Gosnel account of the trial and crucifixion of lesus

Mr. Gibson, a practicing evangelical Catholic, has produced the film as an act of faith. Many Jewish organizations have already proclaimed the film anti-Semitic or inciting of hate. Many Jewish groups have strongly urged theatres not to show the film. Some Jewish leaders have demanded that Christian groups denounce the film's contents and Mr. Gibson as negating the progress made between Christians and Jews since Vatican II.

Others, who have previewed the film, have indicated that a film in Aramaic with subtitles and with little special effects, will have a minimal appeal and as such we in the Jewish community should ignore its inaccuracies and its inadvertent anti-Jewish message. These individuals suggest that we not create a controversy over such an insignificant piece of filmmaking.

There is however a third option between rejection and ignoring: it is to create alliances with Christian groups who also see the film as an inaccurate portrayal of their faith. There are many liberal Christian ministers and denominations that see the film as rife with subtle and not so subtle errors and with gross embellishment of scriptures. One United minister wrote; "It is historically and theologically facile, and emotionally and spiritually battering. There is nothing of redemption in it."

Perhaps our community would best respond to this poor piece of filmmaking

and even poorer piece of theology by joining with Christians to study the Gospels and study the intertestamental period. Perhaps the most powerful response that we can have to one person's poor presentation of "sacred history" is to become knowledgeable of our own sacred history and that of our neighbours.

Sometimes the picket line and the overly vitriolic editorial letter make us feel better, but do little to address our need for

# Pirkei Avot: the wisdom of our sages

Mishnah 2:1

Rebbe says: Which is the proper path that a person should choose for himself? Whatever path is a credit to oneself and earns him the esteem of others.

seems superfluous. It is obvious that the proper path that God expects of us is to follow His will at all times and observe all of the mitzvos (commandments). Rebbe is teaching us that each person brings his own uniqueness and individuality to mitzvah observance.

We all have many special and different qualities that each of us can use in improving our relationship with God. Within the many mitzyos of the Torah, there is room for each of us to express our own individuality. There is no one automatic robotic method to serve God.

Some people mey find that a particular

At first glance the Rebbe's statement mitzvah strikes a deep spiritual chord within them more so than others. Make that mitzvah "your" mitzvah; spend more time on that mitzvah than on others. Some may find great satisfaction in performing acts of Chessed (kindness) for others, while some may find extensive Torah study provides greater spiritual fulfillment. Within the parameters of the Torah, you should choose a path that is a credit to you; that will provide you with fulfillment based on your personality and traits. In the same way, the Mishnah teaches us that you must also give esteem to others who choose to highlight another mitzvah than you.

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# **Editor**

Barry Fishman

A funny thing happened on the UJA community mission to Israel last year.

A group of strangers got on a plane and by the end of the week, they had all become friends. It didn't matter whether they were religious or not, how much money they made, who their friends were, what their politics were, or any of the other countless reasons that divide people. Although it has been nearly a year since the trip, this diverse group of people still gets together and everyone is happy to see one another.

Blame it on Israel, the UJA staff and the lay leadership for making the mission so successful. The well-planned trip was educational, emotional and, quite simply, a heck of a lot of fun. What we experienced in Israel was so moving that the 70 or so people who were on the tour still talk about it whenever they see each other.

How about this for a guarantee? If you decide to go on the UJA community mission to Israel April 21-30, you will have the time of your life. You will meet incredible people and see things and go to places you would never be able to on your own. It will be an emotional experience full of joy, sadness and amazement, and you will be awed at the resilience of the Jewish people.

The beauty of the trip is that it has been

# Israel mission: the time of your life



Mission 2003 participants enjoy Yom Ha'Atzmaut at Yitzhak Rabin Square, Tel Aviv.
(Photo: Dr. Steve Fremeth)

designed for you to spend time with all kinds of Israelis. For Yom Ha' Atzmaut, you will be one of only 2,000 people celebrating Israel's 56th birthday on Mt. Herzl with the prime minister, president, members of the cabinet, chief rabbi and cultural and business leaders. You will meet the disco rabbi, Rabbi Grossman, founder of Migdal Ohr Youth Village, and many of the underprivileged youth his organization supports. You will meet the chief justice of the Supreme Court and politicians, spend time with members of a kibbutz in the Galilee and visit with residents of the Galilee Panhandle to leam more about UJA Partnership 2000 programs. A

visit to Canada Čentre in Metulla is planned where you will be able to join the locals for a skate or bowling. You will spend a very memorable Shabbat in Jerusalem.

The trip will be a unique experience, something completely out of the ordinary. Every moming after a hearty Israeli breakfast, you will pile into a bus and the adventure will begin. What you see and who you meet will amaze you. You will return to Canada with a better understanding of Israel and its people and, more importantly, what Israel means to you and the Jewish people. If last year is any indication, many of you will become more involved in supporting Israel.

In all likelihood, you will be moved, and even slightly embarrassed, by Israelis constantly thanking you for visiting and telling you how important it is to them to know they are not alone. You will be proud that, for the second year in a row, the single largest Yom Ha'Atzmaut mission to Israel will be from Ottawa. Not bad for a city with only 14.000 Jews.

One of the things I found most interesting during last year's trip was how well everyone got along. Every night, people would gather at the hotel hospitality suite and sit around and talk about what they had done and seen that day. At times, the talk was serious; at other times, it got pretty hilarious.

In Israel, we saw people looking after each other. We started doing the same. No one was ever late for the bus, people were good-natured, no matter how badly they had slept the night before, and all went out of their way to be helpful and friendly.

Going on a community mission to Israel is something very special. It should not be missed. You can make this trip even more extraordinary by bringing your teens and your parents. Registration is limited to 120 and is quickly filling up. Registration forms are available online at <a href="https://www.even.com/www.even.com/www.even.com/www.even.com/www.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.even.com/ww.e

Now is the time to visit Israel and experience a tour you will never forget. If you don't believe me, ask the folks on last year's trip. Many of them are going back.



# How I see it

Bob Dale

A main cause of Islamic extremism, some people say, is the repression of the Palestinian people by their Israeli oppressors, and the support of Israeli policies by its powerful American ally. Remove the oppression, goes the argument, and the Palestimian and Islamic reaction will disappear, not only in the Middle East but also throughout the world.

Defenders of this theory go on to say that changes in Israeli and American Middle East policies will also be good for Jews, including those living in Israel. After all, they ask, didn't Jews prosper for hundreds of years in Muslim Spain, living in conditions that were the envy of European Jewry? Once Israel changes its approach to the Palestinians, there is no reason why Jews can't prosper in the Middle East, living side-by-side with their Muslim neighbours, just like they did in Muslim Spain and many other countries.

This argument sounds great, at least in theory, but would it work in the real world?

# Islamic extremism is deeply rooted

A main problem, according to Robert Spencer, who has studied Islam for more than twenty years, is that the mutual religious tolerance upon which it is based is more fiction than fact. According to Spencer, author of Ouward Muslim Soldiers: How Jihad Still Threatens America and the West, Islamic religious law makes it incumbent upon every Muslim to defend the faith from critics; and to support the growth of Islam (even through migrating to foreign lands) - in short, to carry out jihad. While the word jihad has been used in many contexts, Spencer tells us that Muslim law clearly mandates violence against non-believers as a key element. Non-Muslims must first be "invited" to enter Islam - to convert to Islam. If they do not, there is an obligation to wage war on them, until they convert.

Alternatively, non-Muslims can choose to pay the jizya, a poll tax, which allows them to live in Muslim society. If they make that decision, Jews and Christians have the status of dhimmis, protected people who must also abide by a number of restrictions aimed at underseoring their position as second-elass citizens. Specifically, Jews and Christians must distinguish themselves from Muslims in the way they dress; not be greeted with the traditional

Muslim greeting (as-Salamu Alaykum – Peace be with you); keep to the side of the street; and not creet a structure higher than Muslim buildings. They are also forbidden from reciting their religious texts aloud; making public display of their funerals or feast days; building new places of worship; or attempting to prosclytise Muslims. If they violate these terms, they can be killed or sold into slavery, at the discretion of the Muslim leader.

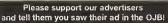
What does all this say, as one example, about the so-called "Golden Age" of Muslim Spain? Spencer acknowledges that individual Jews (and Christians) sometimes held privileged positions in Muslim Spain. However, Muslims who determined that a particular Jew had overstepped the bounds of his "protected" agreement could revoke such privileges at any time. There were even instances where Muslim mobs rioted against the power Jews held and murdered Jews. Such actions, notes Spencer, were based on another Islamic law, that a non-Muslim must not have authority over a Muslim (a principle that is often repeated by modem Muslim clerics and legal experts).

In other words, says Spencer, even where individual Jews have been treated relatively well, in Muslim Spain and clsewhere, Jews have had to pay the Jizya and abide by other restrictions. And even where individual Muslim rulers have been benevolent, the threat of death for violating the law of the dihimmi has always been present.

Like any other religious group, not all Muslims follow such laws to the letter. But Spencer tells us that radical Muslims, who (in terms of numbers) are in the minority, usually hold the power in mosques and other Muslim organizations. These radicals take these religious laws seriously. Some even work to recruit and motivate terrorists to help carry out jihad, so that Sharia—Islamic law—can be instituted throughout the world.

Naturally, says Robert Spencer, there are millions of peaceful Muslims. The problem is that radical Muslims are able to use the core texts of Islam to justify sometimes violent actions against Jews, Christians, and other minorities; and to convince other Muslims, even many moderate ones, that their actions are religiously sanctioned and must be supported. The intolerant and often violent elements of Islam are very deeply rooted, and much more fundamental to current events than, say, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. To paraphrase Robert Spencer, we are all naïve in the extreme if we don't recognize that reality.







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# Tu B'Shevat forester's favourite holiday

Michael Rosen's parents wanted him to grow up and become a professional. That's exactly what he did except the profession he chose was definitely not the one they expected. Michael is a forester, a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) to be more precise, an occupation dedicated to forest management and conserva-

How on earth did a nice Jewish boy from Toronto end up in such a non-traditional line of work? "I come by my love of the outdoors honestly," he explained. "My Zaida (my mother's father) was a lifelong gardener and outdoor enthusiast who enjoyed fishing."

That provided the foundation but not the motivation. As happens to so many who enter university without a clear vocation, a chance event or conversation may be all it takes for a life's plan to crystalize. Rosen was a History major at Trent University but knew that he didn't want to be an academic after graduation. It was the mid- 1970's. For students with a sense of adventure and a willingness to work hard, high paying summer jobs were in abundance in the logging camps out west. Rosen spent two summers on Vancouver Island as a chokerman, one of the more dangerous jobs involved in felling trees.

During the school year. he had a part-time job cut-



Forester Michael Rosen's favourite Jewish holiday is Tu B'Shevat.

ting and selling firewood. The professor who owned the wood lot wondered if Rosen's choice of jobs was more than coincidence. He suggested that Rosen consider the forestry program at University of Toronto.

His parents were understandably apprehensive because, like most of us, they really had no idea what a forester did. They imagined their son sitting in a tower, somewhere in the middle of nowhere, looking for forest fires. A forester's role however, is far more substantial than that. If you assume that there will be paper for your great-grandchildren to write on, wood to build their homes and shade for their children to play under, then you have a forester to thank.

Armed with a diverse educational background that includes biology, botany, soil science, entomology, ecology and hydrology, foresters plan and manage forestry operations. Their actions have environmental al consequences. Their decisions impact forest conservation, and can range from pest control to advising government and industry on natural resource management.

Forestry is not only confined to the woods. Urban forestry recognizes that trees are a vital part of sustainable urban communities. Foresters working in cities design parks and are concerned with where and what species of trees are grown, when they are pruned and disease prevention.

An important part of

forestry is education and awareness. In his almost twenty years as a forester, this has been Rosen's focus. As a stewardship coordinator for the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources he worked with homeowners, businesses, farmers, nurseries, and governments throughout the province providing information on maintaining, protecting and preserving natural resources. It was while working in a Northern Ontario community near Timmins that he met his wife Carole.

In 1995, the Stewardship Programme brought Rosen and his family to the Ottawa area. Naturally, they preferred the country over the city and they wanted their bilingual children, 12-yearold Andrée and 10-year-old Max: to have a French education. They chose to settle in Cantley, Quebec. Andrée attends Ottawa Modern Jewish School and her upcoming bat-mitzvah, her father laughingly says, "will probin Cantley."

Two years ago, Rosen was appointed vice president of the Tree Canada Foundation, a not-for-profit organization that facilitates and promotes the planting and maintenance of trees. Established in 1992, the foundation depends upon private donations and corporate sponsorships to implement its programs. With the support of companies like Shell, TransCanada Pipelines, IKEA, Gap and Home Hardware, the foundation has planted 75 million trees in 280 communities across Canada.

Of course, Tu B'Shevat "the Rosh Hashanah for trees" is Rosen's favourite Jewish holiday. Ever the educator, last year he spoke to students at Ottawa Modern about the relevance of the holiday, the role of trees in their lives and the work of a forester. He also did hands-on activities with the students, like germinating seedlings.

The program was so popular that the school invited him back this year. He plans to help the students at the school germinate white spruce seedlings as part of the Tu B'Shevat Seder the school is planning.

It took a few years for Rosen to make a connection to the Ottawa Jewish community but he is now firmly and happily settled in. It would be safe to say that Ottawa's only Jewish forester, has established roots and is growing to like it here.

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# Tamir expands day services to east end location

By Diane Koven

Tamir's Passages program, a day program serving young adults with developmental disabilities, has expanded into an east end location. Passages operates out of 235 Donald Street in a former high school, which is now occupied by a number of non-profit service organizations.

The new location is a much larger facility and enables Tamir to offer a greater variety of day options to people in more locations. Tamir will maintain its other day program location on the Jewish Community Campus at 11 Nadolny Sachs Private.

Mark Nudelman has been participant of Tamir's Passages program for the past year and a balf. Currently, he volunteers at Hillel Lodge and the Salvation Army. At the Lodge, he is responsible on Friday mornings for setting all of the dining room tables on the secend and third floors.

"In the beginning" says Tamir counsellor Brandi

FOUNDATIO

Morris, "Mark required oneon-one support to learn the job ... now he does it on his own."

At the Salvation Army, Mark works in the kitchen two mornings per week.

"Mark is responsible, dedicated and hard working," says kitchen manager Julio Botelho. "He is a part of the team."

Prior to the Passages program, there were very few day opportunities for high school grads with developmental disabilities. Two years ago, with funding from the Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services, Tamir was able to develop and offer its Passages program to help fill

Estelle Allen is acting supervisor of Passages, "We do an assessment with each participant, which helps determine what they want to do," she says. "If they would like to work in a restaurant, for example, or go back to school, we help them."

"The majority of our participants," says Allen "bave

community and gaining experience in a wide variety of settings ... when we find a placement, we try to make sure they are visible, so that they are interacting with people."

The placements range from helping with mailings at the Tamir office and a local church, paid employment at the Loeb grocery store on Merivale Road and cleaning the inside of buses at the Hurdman station, to working in the kitchen at the Salvation Army.

of in-house activities such as

placements exercise classes; discussion where they are volunteering groups where participants can share problems they may be baving with their placements or school work; communications workshops to help improve social skills; and a current events class. On Thursday mernings, ali the participants come together to socialize, talk about their week experiences during the week and go on an cuting together.

If you have a volunteer or paid employment opportunity to offer, or know of someone who might benefit from There are also a number Passages, please give Estelle a call (851-7476).

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# Tamir Passages program helps new immigrants

By Diane Koven

The Tamir Passages program assists developmentally disabled individuals to acquire life and work skills and to find meaningful volunteer and paid employment geared to their level of ability and interest. Some of these individuals have the added challenge of being new immigrants.

"As Jews, we can identify with the immigrant experience," says Tamir Executive Director, Mark Palmer. "My grandfather, Moshe Palmer, came to Canada from Russia without knowing a word of English. He supported his family by going door to door, collecting rags and rubber for recycling. He and his wife Rose struggled in the beginning, but their efforts led to his success as an entrepreneur in the scrap iron and metal business and a life for their eight children. Tamir is helping developmentally disabled members of new immigrant families, from various corners of the globe, get their start in Canada."

Danh and Tuyen Vo came to Canada from Vietnam ten years ago and, just this past November, became Canadian citizens. The past decade bas been full of challenges for this brother and sister who, in addition to being developmentally disabled, are both in wheelchairs.

Tamir has helped Danh and Tuyen adjust to life in Canada and has opened new doors for them socially and academically as well. Algonquin College offers a program called the Academic Assistance for Adults with a Developmental Disability (the AAADD program) where individuals can study math, English and comput-Several of Tamir's Passages participants, including Danh and Tuyen. attend this program with assistance from a Tamir counsellor.

Danh and Tuyen's brother, Dong, is full of enthusiasm for how his siblings have blossomed through their association with Tamir. "At home, we didn't know anything about the program



Participants and staff of Tamir's Passages program.

at Algonquin," he said. "When they went to Tamir, their counsellor John Knopps took ever and arranged for them to attend Algonquin ... their goal is for them to learn English and new social skills so that in the future they will be able to do volunteer work." John attends with them twice a week and is in constant contact with the teachers as well.

As their brother Dong explains, Tamir provides other supports to bis siblings. "At Tamir they have made new friends...Jchn takes them to different places, assists them to learn new skills and become involved in social activities. He also arranged for them to go to the gym at the Jack Purcell Community Centre. I had tried to find a place for them to exercise because they need to, for their legs, but I didn't find anything. Jobn found the program for them and they attend three days a week," said Dong.

Sharada Sundaram, originally from India, came to Canada via the United States where she spent two years in

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an independent living program in Connecticut before coming to Canada. Her family had heard about Tamir while in Connecticut so they called to enquire and were pleased to discover that Tamir offered just the kind of support Sharada needed.

"Her counsellor, Lana, heips Sharada with math, and with things such as bus routes when she visits us. She has been doing volunteer work bere as well," says her sister Viji. "In a short time, she has quickly become accustomed to Ottawa because the training has been very good "We are very happy with Tamir," said Viji. "It has been a very good move for us and we are so pleased

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with Sharada's progress."

The support and service that Tamir Passages program provides to new immigrants and others is consistent with several Jewish values including Hachnasat Orchim (welcoming/inclusivity,) Gemilut Hasadim (acts of loving kindness) and Tzedek (justice, advocacy.)

If you know of someone who you think might benefit from Passages or other Tamir programs, please give Tamir a call (725-3519). You can also log onto their website at www.tamir.ca

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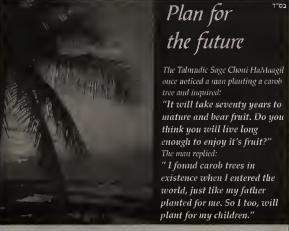
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David, a shoemaker would
repair footwear brought to him
by the nurses and nuns who
worked at the nearby General
(now called the Elizabeth
Bruyere) Hospital at no charge.
In appreciation they presented
him with a painting that still
hangs in Abe's residence at
Hillel Lodge.

David and Hannah
Carlofsky emigrated from
Odessa to Ottawa with their
infant daughter Freda. Soon
after with the births of Rose,
Anne, Abe and Sol, the
Carlofsky's became a closeknit family of five children.
Hannah Carlofsky tended to
the house and children while
her husband earned a living
to support the family.

Freda, Sol and Abe never married. Sisters Rose and Anne married but had no children.

Rose began writing poetry at the age of twelve. She exchanged her poems with poet A.M. Klein. In 1949 she moved to New York to work for the United Nations. After marrying Sidney Breakstone she continued to write poetry and short stories and eventually completed a full

length novel entitled *But in Ourselves*. After a lengthy illness Rose died in Ottawa in 1970.



Anne the youngest of the girls, held a position in the Workman's Compensation Department. Both sisters were involved in the Beth Shalom Sisterhood. Sol enjoyed a career as a top-notch salesman in men's wear and other businesses.

Over the years, the Carlofsky brothers have contributed much to Ottawa. In 1989 they funded three rooms at the Civic Hospital. Sol had open-heart surgery and Abe developed an interest in the Cardiac Unit. He later donated a private room and established the Rose Carlofsky Breakstone Fund to support heart research. He always wanted to help others get the best medical treatment.

Abe retired from the Public Service, worked in finance at the Treasury Board and Agriculture Canada, amongst a number of positions spanning over 40 years. During the Second World War, Abe served in the Canadian Armed Forces,

# THE ABE CARLOFSKY & FAMILY RECREATION PAVILION

Abe believes that charitable giving is part of his family's legacy. Not only has Abe funded a medical conference room and two ward rooms at the Civic in memory of his sisters, he has also made significant donations to research in cancer, kidney disease, diabetes, heart disease and eye treatments. His sister made her contributions for research through a bequest.

At the Ottawa General Hospital, Abe has funded a room in the Eye Institute and established the Carlofsky Foundation for research on eye diseases. In addition he made donations to furnish rooms, purchases equipment, and special events.

His involvement within the Ottawa Jewish community has been numerous. Over the years Abe contributed to a fund he established with the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation, known as the Carlofsky Family



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# An example to his and future generations

Educational Fund. On the 25th anniversary of the OJCE, he made an additional contribution of \$25,000. His plans are to expand the fund to strengthen Jewish life in Ottawa and in Israel for future generations.

In 1999 the Carlofsky Family donated \$250,000 to the Community Capital Campaign, which was set aside for the Carlofsky Family Day Care Room within the new Bess and Moe Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge.

Abe was building manager for 25 years at Congregation Beth Shalom. He has served on the board of directors of Congregation Beth Shalom, Hillel Lodge, B'nai Brith and the Rideau Golf Club.

Abe Carlofsky has performed the ultimate double Mitzvah of both ensuring the future of the Ottawa Jewish Community and perpetuating the Carlofsky Family name for eternity.

His most recent contribution is a gift of \$1 million for the Abe Carlofsky and Family Recreation Pavilion located in the Soloway Jewish Community Centre in the Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building.

This is part of a larger legacy, which, through the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation, will support a number of our community agencies for many years to come. This according to Abe is the Carlofsky's family's legacy to the Jewish Community of



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# **New Jewish student organization formed**

By Rob Walker

"If Hillel opportunities on campus aren't dynamic and exciting ... get involved and fix it" is the straightforward advice to unengaged Jewish students, from Lance Davis, director for National Campus Jewish Life at United Israel Appeal (UIA) Federations.

His words come on the heel of the creation of the first national umbrella organization for Jewish students across Canada since the mid-1990s, the Canadian Federation of Jewish Students (CFJS). Over 40 delegates from campus Hillels across Canada converged on the nation's capital from January 8-11, to build a structure that hopes to link Jewish campus organizations from Victoria to Halifax under one banner.

Alex Kemeny of McGill University was selected as president, Gary Diamond of the University of Western Ontario as vice-president internal, Noah Joseph of Concordia University as VP



Ottawa students (from left to right) Barry Zeldis, Rob Walker, Hillel Director Dov ben-Reuven, Inbal Solomon, Leor Grebler and Noah Zatzman attend convention to link Jewish eampuses

external and PR liaison, Dori Borshov of York University as VP finance and Sarah Berger of Queen's University as VP programming. There will be five committees within the CFJS: the constitution committee, which will recommend amendments to the current constitution, the finance committee, the pro-

gramming committee, government affairs/lobby committee and an Israel affairs

Davis sees little time for procrastination within the CFJS. "They have to come up with an action plan and they have to refine their mission," such as short and long-term budget, and what

resources are required for local Jewish organizations on campus. He hopes that the CFJS, even though it is a nation-wide student body, will "enhance what goes on at local campuses,'

One of the biggest obstacles facing Jewish student associations on campuses

(Continued on page 17)



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# Pledge to overcome student apathy

across Canada is the lack of cohesive leadership, Davis stresses. He points out that most campus Hillels are regularly disappointed with the turnout at events, and that only activities that are exciting to students will succeed. "There's a lot to do," he says with a sigh.

Brent Zacks, president of the Jewish Students' Association at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia, has similar concerns. Out of 300-500 Jews on campus, he says that the JSA has only 150 individuals on its mailing list. "We need more organization," he says, to combat the general indifference of Jewish students to being part of a campus Hillel. A delegate from the University of Winnipeg, Tammy Lavy, sees apathy among Jewish students on her campus as a prime concern that needs to be addressed. "Our population lacks Jewish pride and knowledge ... it becomes a problem when student-run activities

involving Jewish content are not being planned."

However, both students see the creation of the Canadian Federation of Jewish Students as a positive devel-

opment. "This slow change will be a good change,' Zacks ascertains, and Lavy is glad to see that an executo unite all Jewish students

from across Canada.

Robert Walker is a media officer for JSA-Hillel Ottawa and a first-year tive board has been created journalism student at the University of Ottawa

# **Students meet Bill Graham**



During the recent founding conference of the Canadian Federation of Jewish Students held in Ottawa, the Canadian Israel Committee (CIC) provided the students with a number of valuable seminars on the workings of the Canadian government and arranged a meeting for the students with Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) officials. During the session, Bill Graham, minister of Foreign Affairs joined the Hillel students to show his support for their interest in DFAIT, and to encourage students to become more involved in the political process in Canada.

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# Israelis, North Americans work to improve environment

David B. Brooks, director of research for Friends of the Earth - Canada, reports on his recent visit to Israel as part of the Jewish Global Environmental Network (JGEN) study tour.

Thanks to long days, our bus took us from Jerusalem to the Galil, to Tel Aviv and then to the Negev and back. We covered both urban and rural issues in both Jewish and Arab communities in Israel

In Jerusalem, we spent time seeing and discussing the environmental problems of an ancient and holy city. We met with the director

Luxury

general (in effect, deputy minister) for the Ministry of Environment and with Israel's commissioner for future generations, who reports to the Knesset. Israel, along with Canada, is one of just four nations with such a post.

In Kinneret, we observed and heard lectures on Israel's long-standing energy and environmental prob-

at the impressive Alexander River restoration project. (Ironically, at the same time as we were visiting this site, the Ministry of Health issued a ruling that the Yarkon River is too polluted even for boating.)

We had the unique experience of hearing from Israeli Arab planners and visiting Arab communities in northern Israel, which suffer mightily by comparison with their Jewish neighbours. (Even a city as large as Nazareth has yet to receive a sewage system.) At Sakhin, we did see an impressive attempt at promoting more sustainable Arab agriculture and communities.

We spent time in Tel Aviv, which has all the environmental problems of other modern cities, many of which stem from the ubiquitous automobile.

Several of us gave presentations at a colloquium one evening that attracted an audience of several hun-

A day later we saw the serious problems around the Dead Sea, which is falling by nearly a metre each year.

The last three days of the tour (including Shabbat), we participated in a seminar at Kibbutz Ketura (the home of the Arava Institute) deep in the Negev. There we met with our counterparts in dozens of Israeli environmental groups and with officials from the government.

The purpose of the seminar was partly to explore some issues more deeply. but even more to work

North American and Israeli environmentalists.

Professional relationships were established that will lead to joint programming and, dare I say, joint lobbying.

I have written a draft proposal for a study of Israel's energy system, which is less efficient even than Canada, assisted officials in the Ministry of Environment to link with Canadians who prepare a shadow "green budget," and begun joint programming between Friends of the Earth Canada and Friends of the Earth Middle East for protection of the Dead Sea

The tour participants intend to use their knowledge and experience to double-team major donors. especially the UJA, to focus more attention on Israel's badly damaged environment.

For too long, their priorities (as with those of the government of Israel) have been on development in a very narrow sense, with environment receiving but

(Continued pn page 19)

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# **Environment on government agenda**

scant consideration. Even the Jewish National Fund relaxes its environmental efforts when confronted with construction opportunities.

Some of the proposed plans, as with the expansion of Jerusalem eastward, which would mean destruction of the old forest there, would be ecologically tragic, and others, as with continued over-pumping of aquifers, will lead to economic problems in the near future.

The environmental movement is slowly gaining ascendency. Many smaller battles are being won, as with Green political parties winning seats in municipal elections, even as larger ones Omri Sharon, son of the (e.g., the trans-Israel high- prime minister. way) are being lost. Even when lost, environmental issues can no longer simply be ignored. Debate on the Dead Sea in the Knesset has shifted from whether protection is needed to how best to accomplish protection. And, tion and advocacy.



David Brooks at the Nabatean Cistern in the Negev.

for the first time in many years, there is an environmental caucus in the Knesset - led by none other than

An amazing level of solidarity has now been established between North American and Israeli environmentalists. Now we have to meld that solidarity into effective research, educa-



Barry and Ricki Baker joyfully announce the birth of their first grandchild, Chloe Eden, born to Jennifer and Jonathan Baker, on January 5, 2004.



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# ttawa USY hosts pre-convention week

Fifty-five United Synagogue Youth (USY) delegates flew in from all across the Northwest; Oregon, Washington State, B.C., and Alberta, for an amazing three days of fun with Ottawa's USY chapter, Jews Around Canada's Capital USY (JACCUSY).

It all kicked off on Thursday morning, with an early start for Shacharit and breakfast. From there, we boarded chartered buses to make our way to Montreal where we picked up participants from the Montreal USY chapter, and had a funfilled day of shopping and touring.

Friday was another early start for Shacharit and then off to Parliament Hill. When we arrived, everyone had the urge to take pictures, and many were running up the stairs a la "Rocky Balboa." A huge picture was taken at the top of the stairs to Parliament, and we went inside for a

From Parliament, we made our way across the

Leon Kozliner C Ped (C)

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Fifty-five USY delegates spend a fun-filled weekend in Ottawa with JACCUSY members. (Photo: Cheryl Calof)

Sea Scrolls exhibit at the Museum of Civilization. Habonim Dror shaliach, Omer, gave an interactive lesson leading up to the

The exhibit itself is very beautiful, and is recommended to all.

The showcase of the Scrolls brought us all together as Jews, and showed the bond that we

river to Hull, and the Dead ed to read from the Scrolls and Seifer Torah

We arrived back at the shul for Shabbat preparation, and, when we returned from our host homes, had Kabbalat Shabbat, along with Minchah and Ma'ariv. All hosts and their families were invited for Shabbat dinner and a good time. They were treated to our rousing songs, and jumping around. Everyone was have when we all attempt- bappy; it was Shabbos.

After Saturday Shabbat services, Professor Mira Sucharov lead us in a discussion and study session about the Israeli/Palestinian conflict.

When Shabbat concluded, it was time for a swim party at the SJCC! Everyone had a great time. Sunday we all got on the buses and headed off to the United Synagogue Youth's International Convention 2003 in

# **Grade 7 OTTAS students attend Shabbaton at Beth Shalom West**

teacher, Morah Shirley Schildkraut

and class mascot, Robin Hood the Daschund, listened to a beautiful Kiddush recitcd by Aaron Woznica and Jeremy Izso. After eating their fill, the children sang Birkat HaMazou and learned a Shabbat Zemer. They discussed the Parsha and played had menuchah (rest) and then games. Leah cleverly outwitted her classmates and seemingly vanished into thin air during one game, alarming everyone and giving us all a good laugh.

On Saturday morning, the students attentively listened to the Rabbi's speech at Beth Shalom West and sang the Mussaf service. Jeremy went up to the Bimah to help lead the conclusion of the service.

After lunch the students

continued with a discussion of Chanukah and their plans for continuing their Jewish education post Grade 7

After a beautiful Havdallah, the students went off to Laser Quest where Emily Baskin came in first. The students returned to Morah Shirley's for a Melave Malka where they ate some more and watched a movie.

The class is looking forward to their next Shabbaton in the spring.

# dents of Ottawa Talmud Torah Afternoon School enjoyed Shabbat in the company of their classmates and

On Friday, all the students

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# OMJS/OTTAS discover **Dead Sea Scrolls**

By Michael Rosen

"Awesome!" "Outrageous!" "Cool!"

These were some of the comments heard from the 31 Grade 6 and 7 students (or was it their parents?) from the Ottawa Modern Jewish School (OMJS) and Talmud Torah Afternoon School (OTTAS) on their visit to the Dead Sea Scrolls.

In spite of the late bus, the group arrived with great enthusiasm at the Museum of Civilization in Hull to view one of the most fascinating exhibits of ancient Jewish history ever to be

The exhibit was actually more than the Dead Sea Scrolls, but included a collection of rare ceremonial objects from 1200-700 B.C.E. The exhibit was arranged chronologically: the Torah, 1st Temple Period, 2nd Temple Period and Emerging Faiths. The oldest mention of King David outside the Torah is portrayed on a stone block as part of

The exhibit ended with a beautiful Sepher Torah from the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue, the oldest synagogue in Canada, established in 1768.

Mina Cohen, a trained archeologist provided expert interpretation and a wonderfully designed activities page/questionnaire. Shirley and Hymie Schildkraut from Talmud Torah accompanied the youngsters as they scurried from exhibit to exhibit answering the well-crafted questionnaire.

The focus of the exhibit includes portions of the first Dead Sea Scrolls ever found: the Isaiah B Scroll, Community Scroll and War Scroll. These were displayed in eerily lit cases in which preservation was (obviously) of prime importance.

Unfortunately, the time passed all too quickly and it was back on the buses to be taken away from a world of so long ago that has so much meaning to us in the pre-





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# **Art Works / Rose Ann Hoffenberg**

# Arni Haraldsson, *Hinnom Valley, East Jerusalem* and *Lifta, West Jerusalem*, 1997-2000. Chromogenic prints laminated to plexiglass

fifties, in Reykjavik, Iceland, first investigated architecture and public spaces in the early nineties in Vancouver, where he presently lives. He searches out ideal city designs with less than ideal realities, all around the world.

Jerusalem with their grand scale, classical composition, and panoramic view make it easy for us to search the landscape for details.

The three parts of Lifta, West Jerusalem allows our eye to move easily through the image. The various parts of the photograph, however, reveal startling contrasts in terms of subject matter. In the foreground, remains of an original Arab village appear, largely deserted and in ruins. Recent plans by the

Israelis include building luxury houses on this site. In the background, the suburbs of West Jerusalem can be seen, the colour of the buildings matching that of the hazy atmospheric background. In addition, the structures of the modem buildings closely follow the this vision. The two photographs of contour of the land thus making them appear to be almost peaceful pastoral 'at one' with the landscape. The Arab buildings also standing beside an olive seem to blend with the land.

However, this unity is largely a result of their allows trees and vegetation of metal objects, have been to penetrate their ancient dumped on what seems to Is this the beginning of a review the contrasting reliinteriors. Through this mingling of landscape with ancient and contemporary architectural elements, Haraldsson creates a highly ambiguous statement on the politics of the area.

The Hinnom Valley, in

biblical times, was a massive garbage dump and sewer where fires humed constantly. The Greek translation of Hinnom Valley, gehenna, became a synonym for hell.

The present photograph of the area does not match

The place now has an appearance: see the horse tree, in the foreground. However, in the middle ground, an aliusion to the area's former use appears deteriorated state that as cars or some other type be a gravel heap.

> In addition, as there is no supporting text or information in the caption to ground the image, the viewer is left to question the activities happening in this area of the photograph.



Arni Haraldsson, Hinnom Valley, East Jerusalem

new Jewish suburb like the one seen in the background of the work? Is the mound simply a garbage heap that has little real political significance? The artist's message is subtle but provoking: we are encouraged to

gious, political and ecowho inhabit this highly volatile area.

The works are currently on display at the National Gallery of Canada in room B203. However, contempo-

rary works have a habit of changing frequently, so if nomic conditions of those they are gone when you want to see them, the curator of the Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography will take them from the vault for a private viewing, upon request.

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# Chicken chili recipes to warm your insides

I am one of the most unobservant people around. I never stop to gawk at car accidents, I am always the last person to know any of our street gossip and I never notice new haireuts or things like that.

However, I love to play a little game while in line at the supermarket. I check out the contents of the carts around me. You can usually tell a lot about a person by their choice of

groceries. While doing my shopping in the first week of January I inevitably noticed carts full of Lean Cuisine and Weight Watcher's frozen dinners, diet soda, cans of tuna and lots of fruit and vegetables. This is the month that we typically resolve to eat light and healthy.

Here are two recipes for chili that are made with chicken and therefore much lower in fat and caloric content. The last time I served Chicken Chili was at a potluck dinner at a neighbour's house. The woman standing next to me, had her plate heaped full of the chili I had brought. She remarked how delicious it looked. I smiled and said, "Thanks, I made it." She asked what kind of chili it was and I answered, "Cashew Chicken Chili." She almost dropped her plate. It tumed out she was fatally allergic to eashews. Hence the name "Killer Chili."

#### Killer Chicken Chili

#### (also known as Chicken Cashew Chili) Serves 4

Dried ancho chiles are available from Chilly Chiles on Sussex St. They are fairly mild with a hint of sweetness and are one of the most commonly used chiles in Mexico, forming the base of many sauces. It can be made two days ahead. Cool completely, uncovered, then cover tightly and refrigerate.

4 dried ancho chiles

1/3 cup salted cashews

1 1/2 cups chicken broth

I whole chicken, cut into 8 pieces

I tablespoon olive oil

I large onion, coarsely chopped

4 cloves garlic, finely minced

1 tablespoon ground cumin

1/4 teaspoon chili powder (more if you like it hot)

I teaspoon kosher salt

1 28-ounce can Italian plum tomatoes

1/2 ounce bittersweet dark chocolate (not unsweetened)

I can black beans, rinsed and drained

I can white kidney beans, rinsed and drained

1/2 cup salted cashews

Hear a small heavy skillet over moderate heat until hot and toast chiles, one at a time, pressing down with tongs for a few seconds on each side to make more pliable. Wearing rubber gloves, seed and de-vein chiles. Put chiles in a medium heatproof bowl and cover with boiling water. Let sit to soften for about 20 minutes. Remove chiles from hot water and in a blender or food processor, purce chiles with 1/3 cup cashews and the chicken stock until smooth.

In a large heavy saucepan, heat olive oil until hot. Cook onion and garlic, stirring until softened. Add cumin, chili powder and salt and stir for about 1 minute.

Add chicken to saucepan and stir to coat with the onion mixture. Stir in chile puree and canned tomatoes with juice. Cover pan and simmer, stirring occasionally to avoid sticking, for about 40 minutes or until chicken legs are cooked through.

Remove pan from heat and transfer chicken to a bowl. Stir chocolate and drained beans into cbill sauce. Let chicken cool slightly and then remove meat, discarding skin and bones. Shred meat using two forks or your hands. Add shredded chicken to the pan. Reheat chili over moderate heat. Sprinkle with second quantity of eashews just before serving.

#### Chicken Chili

#### Serves 12

This recipe is from Ina Garten's book, *The Barefoot Contessa Parties!* (Clarkson Potter 2001). This is a fairly hot chili, so adjust level of spices if you like it milder, I like to serve it with tortilla chips, sbredded tofu cbeddar cheese and tofutti sour cream. If you are not making it for a crowd, any leftovers freeze very well.

6 large onions, chopped into 1/4 inch pieces

1/4 cup olive oil

8 cloves garlic, finely minced

4 red bell peppers, cored, seeded

and diced into 1-inch chunks 4 yellow bell peppers, cored, seeded

and diced into 1-inch chunks

2 teaspoons chili powder, or to taste

2 teaspoons ground cumin

1/2 teaspoon red pepper flakes, or to taste

1/2 teaspoon cayenne, or to taste

4 teaspoons kosher salt

4 28-ounce cans Italian plum tomatoes, undrained

1/2 cup minced fresh basil leaves

8 single chicken breasts, bone in, skin on

2 tablespoons olive oil

kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

In a large saucepan, cook onions in oil over medium-low heat for 10 to 15 minutes, until translucent. Add the garlic and cook for 1 more minute. Add the bell peppers, chili powder, cumin, red pepper flakes, cayenne, and salt. Cook for 1 minute.

Pour canned tomatoes into a large bowl and squeeze gently by hand to break up the tomatoes. Add to pot with the basil. Bring to a boil, then reduce the heat and simmer, uncovered, for 30 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Rub the chicken breasts with olive oil and place them on a baking sheet. Sprinkle generously with salt and pepper. Roast the chicken for 35 to 40 minutes, until just cooked. Let cool slightly. Separate the meat from the bones and skin and cut into 3/4 inch chunks. Add to the chili and simmer, uncovered, for another 20 minutes. Serve.



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# Heart-warming picture books straight-forward winners

Caring sentiments expressed in simple straight-forward language and artwork make the following picture books heartwarming winners.

The Key to My Heart By Nira Harel Illustrated by Yossi Abulafia Kane/Miller Book Publishers Unpaged Ages 3 - 6

What Jewish content can there be in a picture book premised on lost keys and an extra special key chain? Answer: Stealth Israeli content in the illustrations. Those two elements, a universal theme set in Israel, are the essence of *The Key to My Heart*.

Somewhere between locking his office door and arriving home with Jonathan, a thoroughly modem dad lost his keys. As they look for the keys, Jonathan enjoys a series of friendly encounters. He gets his hands stamped at the post office. He gets a hair-cut from a with-it barber. He has a slice of pizza. And at the newsstand, he is given lost keys but the key chain is wrong.

Returning home, Jonathan and dad find the door unlocked and mom waiting. After showing off her powers of detection, mom produces Dad's keys and proves that Jonathan's picture on the key chain really is more important than all the other keys in more ways than one.

As to stealth Israeli content, that's Hebrew lettering on the outdoor signs in those bold, expressive watercolour paintings. And the rascally eats in most pictures add to the fun. Thoroughly delightful, *The Key to My Heart* will be requested reading again and again.

Bedtime By Nechama Dina Adelman Illustrated by Fayge Devorah Blau Hachai Publishing 2003 Unpaged Ages 3 - 6

I am delighted to report that in both text and illustrations picture books with an orthodox perspective are getting better and better. *Bedtime* is a good example of that improvement.



# **Kid Lit**

Deanna Silverman

Again a universal theme is played out in a specifically Jewish environment, this time an orthodox home.

After washing up, saying the Shema, and hearing a bedtime song, Dovid is having trouble falling asleep. Listening to Mommy's activities and other night noises leads Dovid to call his mother back into his room, asking, in tum, for a drink of water, his toy car, and the bedtime song again.

But what is really bothering Dovid is his feeling of loneliness. Mommy picks up on that, assuring Dovid "everyone feels lonely sometimes, but we're never really alone." Changing the bedtime song to include Hashem's presence provides the emotional security Dovid needs to finally fall asleep.

A caring gentleness pervades the text and pictures alike, as night time, Ioneliness, and the dark are enveloped in the warmth of love, understanding, and Hashem. As its title says, a terrific book for *Bedtime* and for any other time a young child feels lonely.

Bagels from Benny By Aubrey Davis Illustrated by Dusan Petricic Kids Can Press 2003 Unpaged Ages 5 - 8

Based on Jewish folklore but updated and set in North America (perhaps Toronto) in the 1930's or 1940's, Bagels from Beuny is a charming story of a young boy's efforts to thank God for creating the world and all that is in it, especialby Grandpa's wonderful bagels.

Written with the warmth and flair of oral storytelling, Benny comes alive as he bounces downstairs in the early



From Bagels from Benny

moming to help Grandpa in the bakery before heading off to school. When Grandpa doesn't accept a customer's thanks for making his bagels with love Benny is puzzled.

He is further puzzled when Grandpa explains that it is God who should be thanked for the bagels. How do you thank God? Unhappy with his first attempt, Benny ponders long and hard before coming up with another method.

It works! God accepts the bagels Benny leaves for him in the Holy Ark in the synagogue every Friday moming. At least that's what Benny thinks until he and Grandpa accidentally discover what really happened to those bagels and Benny leams one of the best ways to thank God.

Facial expressions say it all in illustrations that radiate with the inviting smell of freshly made bagels and the warmth of a wise Grandpa lovingly nurturing his grandson's spiritual growth. Bagels from Benny, a truly irresistible all Canadian offering.



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# Sins of the Fathers: Church did little to help Jews during Holocaust

Were the Nazis the only ones to blame for the Shoah? What about those who turned their heads to look the other way? What about the Roman Catholic Church itself? Where was this institution of moral authority when Jews were being led away to their slaughter?

The Confessor By Daniel Silva G. P. Putnam's Sons/Penguin Putnam Inc. Hardcover: 2003

This thriller is a fictional introduction to the topic. Gabriel Allon – a.k.a. Mario Delvecchio, talented and respected art restorer – is busy in Venice restoring a Bellini when he is called to investigate the murder of writer Benjamin Stem in Munich. The Mossad agent reluctantly agrees to check it out and finds himself drawn into a complicated case that leads to Rome, directly to the Vatican City and the Holy See, to be exact. It's a twisted route replete with shadowy characters, Machiavellian priests, a skillful adversary, and the nightmares that follow Allon from book to book.

For Allon is no stranger to Silva's novels. This is his third appearance in a tale that, like the earlier books, is intelligently crafted with twists and turns that will entertain to the very less those.

What makes Silva's books so interesting is the fact that each story is based on some aspect of contemporary Jewish history. (The English Assassin, reviewed in the Summer 2003 issue of the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin, dealt with Nazi art looting and the Swiss connection.) Silva was a journalist for UPI and CNN before becoming a writer of fiction; his research skills are still well-honed. For The Confessor, he says he "must have read 100 books and scholarly articles on the topic." He did the same in researching Bellini and art restoration and offers readers a glimpse into a highly specialized field.



# The Book Beat

Kinneret Globerman

Silva was originally Catholic but converted to Judaism as an adult. Writing this book was a difficult process for him. However, the growing anti-Semitism in Europe was motivation enough. (The Great Synagogue in Rome, is protected now by Italian police 24 hours a day.) But Silva has not let his "personal journey" get in the way of his storytelling, which is pure entertainment.

A Moral Reckoning:
The Role of the Catholic Church in the Holocaust
and Its Unfulfilled Duty of Repair
By Daniel Jonah Goldhagen
Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Inc.
Hardcover, 2002

This was one of the books Silva used in his research. Written by the author of the acclaimed Hitler's Willing Executioners: Ordinary Germans and the Holocaust, this book, in a sense, continues where the other Goldhagen book left off. Goldhagen's thoroughly researched treatise is a fearless moral inquiry into the Catholic Church's complicity in the Nazi's Final Solution. It goes beyond Pope Plus XII's inaction to show how anti-Semitism has been endemic to Church doctrine.

The facts are undeniable. Many ordinary Germans were anti-Semites, Germans (companies, organizations, individu-

als, government bodies) enslaved and murdered millions, Swiss banks stole from the victims and assisted the 
German initiative, and the 
Catholic Church generated 
much of this anti-Semitism 
and "acted badly toward Jews 
in many ways." And "actual 
Christian biblical statements 
about Jews, as well as the 
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cal, and instructional positions about Jews that historically were derived from them are ... anti-Semitic."

Jews were Christ-killers, children of the devil, and have been persecuted over the millennia in the name of Christianity. Yet moral discussions of such crimes, especially when it comes to the Holocaust, have been eschewed, says Goldhagen, because critics are reluctant to condemn institutions like the Church and Swiss banks, particularly because they risk being criticized for doing so. (Goldhagen has been vilified with both books.) Or they are censured for being anti-Catholic, or anti-German, or anti-Swiss. But Goldhagen says that should not inhibit any critic from condemning that which must be condemned. 'It is our right to judge..' he writes. 'If any event calls out for a concerted moral reckoning of those involved, it is the Holocaust—which is why those who even implicitly suggest as much are attacked by those who know how devastating the judgements ought to be.'

Goldhagen describes, analyzes and explains, in full, the actions of the Church during the Nazi period. He doesn't soften his moral judgement and condemnation — he's a tough judge and jury — because he feels it's "untenable" to have to "soft-pedal the truth" for fear of offending the Church. And the fact is that the Church itself would agree, if one is to take its writings seriously. In the Catechism (the Church's 800-page "moral system"), paragraph 1459 asserts that there is a moral imperative to repair any wrong, Goldhagen offers a way for the Church to repair the harm through material, political, and moral restitution and he describes each in full.

#### This month at the Greenberg Families Library:

The Ottawa Jewish Film Society presents Kazablan, an award-winning musical about a Tel Aviv gang-leader who falls in love with the daughter of a European immigrant – Israel's own West Side Story! In Hebrew with English subtitles, this 110-minute-long Israeli film will be presented Sunday aftermoon, February 22, at 2:00 pm. For admission costs or more information, call the library (798-9818, ext. 245).



On the evening of Monday, December 22nd, a Chanukah Celebration was held at Rideau Place on-the-River.

From 6:30 to 8:00 pm, the traditional celebration took place in the Champlain Centre. We were entertained by a Klezmer Trio, Dr. Sol Gunner played the violin; Aviva Lightstone played the piano and her beautiful daughter, Nava Lightstone, shared her vocal talent with us. We would like to also thank Floralove Katz, who coordinated the entertainment efforts.

Many residents, friends, family members and guests attended that evening. Thelma Steinman who also joined us is always a pleasure to have as our guest. Our residents love to see her. Thank you for coming Thelma!

We had the pleasure of having Cantor Yair Subar with us. He spoke a few words and lit the 3rd candle in honour of the festival of lights.

This wonderfully successful event was eatered by David Smith of Creative Kosher Catering, who was accompanied by Yehuda Connors, the meshgiach.

Menu items for our gathering included assorted party sandwiches, relish trays, miniature potato latkes and miniature doughnuts!

Thank you David, and we will definitely see you next year.

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Mazal Tov to:

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Ronald Ginsberg by Jeff and Maureen Katz and family. In memory of:

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Shlome Mayman Oonna and Bernie Dolansky on the birth of their granddaughter by Marion and Shlomo Mayman.

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Sam and Rebecca Halpern on the birth of their grand-daughter by Sandra Fishbain and Hermie Halpern.

Mark and Lynn Halpem on the birth of their daughter by Sandra Fishbain and Hermie Halpem. Continued good health to

Tommy Gussman by Sandra Fishbain and Hermie

#### Herbie Gosewich by Sandra Fishbain and Hermie With eppreciation to:

Haze Wainberg by Hermie Halpern.

In memory of:
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Halpern.
Percy Weinstein by Sandra Fishbain and Hermie

#### In observence of the Yahrzell ot:

Anne Sahari, a beloved mother and grandmother, sadly missed by Sandra, Jeff and Arron Fishbain. Inving (Izzie) Sabran, a beloved father and grandiather, sadly missed by Sandra, Jeff and Arron Fishbain.

Ben Baylin, our sweet and gentle cousin, sadly missed by Sandra, Jeff and Arron Fishbain and Hermie Halpem and

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In memory of: Anne Mirsky by Helen Saipe; and by Geri and Sidney

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Israel "Is" Shinder on his very special birthday by Gloria and Barry Trainoff; and by Ethel and Oavid Malek.

# SOL AND ZELAINE SHINGER ENGOWMENT FUND

Sol and Zelaine Shinder on being honored by the Spirit of Jerusalem Medallion for the State of Israel Bonds by Paul and Marcia Friedberg.

#### LOUIS AND STELLA SLACK MEMORIAL FUND Mazal Toy to:

Millie Weinstein on her special birthday by Myra and

Lester Aronson and lamily.

Ocrothy Nadolny on her special birthday by Myra and

#### HARRIET AND IRVING SLONE ENDOWMENT FUND Speedy recovery to: Harriet Stone by Anita Saslove. JACK AND LINOA SMITH ENCOWMENT FUND

Dr. Hugh White by Leiba and Robert Krantzberg and

# LAURA AND GORDON SPERGEL ENOOWMENT FUND

In memory ol: Shella Smith-Salzberg by Laura and Gordon Spergel.

#### MAX AND PHYLLIS STERNTHAL FAMILY FUND Mazal Toy to:

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Sarkin on the mamage of their

daughter Joni by Phyllis and Max Sternthal.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Sarkin on the engagement of their daughter Barbara to David by Phyllis and Max Sternthal.

Naom: Kasper on her very special birthday by Phyllis and Max Stemthal

Edvce Cohen by Phyllis and Max Stembal.

# FREOA ANO PHIL SWEDKO MEMORIAL FUNO

Mazal Toy to: Sadre and John Craft on their special birthdays by Claire

Continued on page 27





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# **FOUNDATION DONATIONS**

MOSES, CHENYA AND HENRY TORONTOW MEMORIAL FUND Mazal Tov to:

Bea Torontow on her very special birthday by Jean Naemark and family.

PEARL AND EDWARD TORONTOW ENDOWMENT FUND

In observance of the Yahrzell of: Sam Tanser, a dear father and grandlather, sadly missed by Pearl Torontow and family.

MILDRED AND PERCY WEINSTEIN ENDOWMENT FUND

Millie Weinstein on her special birthday by Anita Saslove; and by Zelaine and Sol Shinder.

Alyce and Allan Baker on their special wedding anniver-

Ricki and Barry Baker on the birth of their grand-

daughter Chioe Eden by Millie Weinstein

SELA AND CHAIM ZARETSKY

MEMORIAL FUND Best wishes to:

Mille Weinstein on her special birthday by Lou and Sarah Satov.

NATHAN, DAVID AND MAX ZELIKOVITZ **FAMILIES FUND** 

In memory of:

Joanne Robitaille by Marlene Burack.

#### **B'NAI MITZVAH CLUB**

JAMIE BEREZIN B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

Jennette Jacobson by Corinne and Sheldon Taylor and tamily; by Getty Friedman; by Yanda and Mark Max; and by Nomi, Harold and Max Collon.

B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

In memory of:
Joanne Robitaille by Ian and
Glenda Garonce and famly.

RYAN GOLDBERG B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

In memory of: Edd:e Freedman by Len and

MARK NADOLNY B'NAI MITZ-Mazal Toy to

Dorothy Nadolny on her special birthday by Laurie Nadolny and

0

birthday by Laurie Nadolny and Bill Green and all the kids

MARSHALL ROTHMAN B'NAI MITZVAH FUND Mazal Toy to:

Daniella Finestone on her Bat Mitzvah by Marshall

Benjamin Finestone on his Bar Mitzvah by Marshall Bothman

Contributions may be made by phoning Kayla Mallay at 798-4696 extension 274, Monday to Friday. We have voice mail. Our e-mail address is kmallay@jccottawa.com Attractive cards are sent to convey the appropriate sentiments. All donations are acknowledged with an official receipt for income tax purposes. We accept Visa and MasterCard



# **Global Shtetl** The Jewish Internet

Saul Silverman

Some weeks back, I heard Michael Enright's feature interview with Henry Sapoznik, organizer of National Public Radio's Yiddish Radio Project.

For much of the period from the 1920s to the late 1950s, Yiddish radio was a daily presence in areas of Jewish concentration. Sapoznik tracked down over 5000 hours of recorded transcriptions, mainly from small radio stations that catered to New York City's Yiddish speaking immigrant community.

#### Music

National Public Radio provided Sapoznik with an opportunity to anthologize a selection of this material a few years back. In addition to the 10 broadcasts, organized around various themes, NPR also broadcast a sequel, a series of short Geins from the Yiddish Radio Archives. NPR'S website (see end of this column) makes this easy to

A list of the original ten broadcasts is available either by scrolling down the left side or by accessing the Exhibits page for fuller program descriptions (see end of this column).

After listening to the introductory broadcast, I suggest that you enjoy two musical programs. Yiddish Melodies in Swing has choice material from the hot clarinetist, Naftali Brandauer, it also features the Barrie Singers, and the background to the runaway crossover hit, Bei Mir Bist'u Shein.

Another musical program is devoted to pop singer, Seymour Rexite, and his wife. The performing and songwriting (or translating) team are interviewed and they play music from their own tape collection. Their specialty became creating Yiddish versions of popular songs of the day. Have you heard the music from Oklahoma in Yiddish?

# Yiddish radio proiect

#### Advice and advertismo

C. Israel Lutsky, Der Yiddishe Filosof, was an ex-vaudeville comic who developed a popular advice show. Lutsky's often-sarcastic retorts were replies to questions scripted by his brother-in-law to make the show more interesting. Lutsky, to put it mildly, was not kind to his listeners: he combined advice with bluntness, to the point where he blazed a trail followed by Don Rickles and other "insult" comedians.

Comically brilliant, in my opinion, is his adaptation of a classical Melamed's exposition, delivered in the singsong of the cheder, to explain to his "dear listeners" how his sponsor, Camation Milk, could get all that nutrition into a tiny little can, or why such good milk could be delivered so cheaply. The ads can be found by going to the Lutsky web page (see Exhibits web page) and clicking on the link (upper right) for Camation Milk.

The archives are also a tremendous reflection of everyday life. For example, check out the program on Victor Packer and (among other things) his people in the street interviews. But, more interesting and amusing is the program on Yiddish commercials: also best accessed through the Exhibits page (listen to the notoriously parodied Joe and Paul men's clothing commercial).

Yiddish radio also addressed the real life woes of the Jewish community and used every day family and individual troubles as grist for the mill of popular drama. The latter is the focus on a prolific genius of radio drama (including soapers and thrillers), Nahum Stutchkoff.

In the drama of everyday life, Yiddish radio pioneered a

popular genre: Rabbi Rubin's Court of the Air. And, in the immediate aftermath of the Holocaust, Yiddish radio performed a valuable service, illustrated by the program Reunion.

Sapoznik and National Public Radio bave preserved a vital part of our heritage

and have made it available to a wider audience. Let's hope that more of this will be done in future.

The Yiddish Radio Project: A Special Report offers a portal to all the YRP material, as well as background information and links to other Yiddish sites (http://www. upr.org/programs/atc/features/2002/yiddish). The free Real Audio player must be installed on your computer to hear the audio clips. The YRP Exhibits page is at http://www. viddishradioproject.org/exhibits.





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# In Appreciation

We would like to thank all our family and friends for their kindness and expressions of condolence on the loss of our dear mother and grandmother, Hannah Angel. All the heartfelt donations, visits, flowers, cards and phone calls offered comfort and support at a difficult time. A sincere thank you to everyone.

The Angel, Keshen, Kaman and Angel-Blair families

February 2 -

For a detailed listing visit www.jewishottawa.org



ONGOING



Ancient Treasures and the Dead Sea Scrolls, Canadian Museum of Civilization, 100 Laurier Street, Gatineau, Ouébec, until April 12, 2004.



A Mid-Winter's Day Dream, art exhibition by Sylvia Klein, The Mud Oven, 1065 Bank Street. Until February 15. Info: 730-0814.

Bagels and Faces, photog-raphy by Lols Slegel, Ottawa Bagel and Deli, 1321 Wellington Street, 722-8753.

Beth Shalom West lecture series on Rabbl Joseph Ber Soloveitchik with Rabbi Howard Finkelstein, Monday evenings 7:30 pm, January 26 to March 29, 15 Chartwell Ave. Info: 723-1800.

> MONDAY FERRUARY 2

JET, Lawyers' Lunch and Learn, "Breach of confidence in Jewish law." Pre-registration for lunch is required, Gowlings, 160 Floin, 26th Floor, noon,

> WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 4

(V)@ZMA UJA, Yozma Breakfast,

Starting Your Own Business with Kevin Barwin, 7:00 am. Info: Jesse (798-4696 ext,246).

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 8

JNF Tu B'Shevat Telethon. Please respond generously.

> THURSDAY **FEBRUARY 12**

Prime Time at Temple Israel, Classical Music Discussion with Jean-Jacques Van Vlasselaer. Info: 728-4202.

FEBRUARY 13

JETSETTERS, Young Adult Friday Night Dinner, Shaps Family, 6:00 pm.

> SATURDAY FEBRUARY 14

Torah Academy ot Ottawa and Soloway JCC Fitth Annual Chinese Buffet and Auction, great prize packages, door prizes, Congregation Machzikei Hadas, 2310 Virginia Drive, 8:00 pm. Info: 274-0110



CANDLELIGHTING

Feb 6	\$	4:58 pm
Feb 13	\$	5:08 pm
Feb 20	*	5:19 pm
Feb 27	*	5:28 pm
Mar 5	*	5:38 pm

Mar 12 Mar 19 Mar 26

Apr 2 Apr 9 ⊅ 7:24 pm Apr 16 

COMING

Jewish Ottawa Youth presents Joy Café and Casino night, Agudath Israel Congregation, 8-11pm Info: Galit Germanov (798-4696 ext.386). e-mail: GGermanov@jccottawa.com.

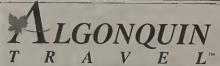
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 29
JSA Hillet and Birthright presents an open house on Israel travel opportunities, Hillel Lodge. Info: Galit Germanov (798-4696 ext.386) . e-mail: GGermanov@jccottawa.com.



UJA community mission to Israel. Into: 798-4696 or www.jewishottawa.com.

Unless otherwise noted, activities take place at The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private.

This information is taken from the community calendar maintained by the Jewish Community Campus of Ottawa Inc. Organizations which would like their events to be listed, no matter where they are to be held, should make sure they are recorded by Brenda Schafer, calendar coordinator at 798-9618 ext. 265. We have voice mail. Accurate details must be provided and all events must be open to the Jewish public, You may fax to 798-9639 or email to bschafer@jocottawa.com.



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# Condolences

Condolences ore extended to the families of: Ethel Benoway Ben Levin

May their memory be a blessing always.

The CondoLence Column is offered as a public service to the community. There is no charge.

For a listing in this column, please call Kayla Mallay, 798-4696, ext. 274.

Voice mail is available.

## BULLETIN DEADLINES

FEBRUARY 11 FOR MARCH 1

MARCH 3 FOR MARCH 22